(b) on which routes the withdrawn trains were running; and

(c) the reasons for withdrawing those trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Library-cum-Bookstall on Long Distance Trains

4416. PROF. RAMDEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pantry cars are provided on trains as an essential passenger facility, despite a heavy loss being incurred by the Railways on this count;

(b) whether the Ministry of Railways had decided in the past to provide mobile library-cum-bookstall in long distance trains as an essential facility to passengers, like pantry cars, and not on commercial considerations; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not providing library-cum-bookstall facility in long distance trains operating on all the Indian Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The pantry cars have been provided on selected mail/express trains as a measure of passenger amenity.

(b) and (c) Mobile libraries were introduced in the past in a few selected mail & express trains on experimental basis and not as an essential facility. However, this scheme has not been successful as bookstalls are available at almost all important stations.

New Trains in Orissa

4417. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of the five new trains announced to be introduced for Orissa during the current year, only one new Bhubaneswar-Palasa Intercity Express train has been introduced so far;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in introduction of the remaining trains; and

(c) the definite time frame for introduction of the remaining four train services for Orissa, as announced in the Railway Budget 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Out of the five new trains to be introduced for Orissa, two trains have already been introduced. The remaining three trains would be introduced during the current financial year 2001-2002 as soon as coaches becomes available and other infrastructural arrangements are made.

Tatkal Seva Identity Cards to Anti-Nationals

4418. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what action has been taken by Government against the officers responsible for the issue of Tatkal Seva Identity Cards to anti-national persons etc., as reported in the Delhi Star News paper of 19th February, 2001;

(b) if no action has been taken, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to make up the loss of about one hundred fifty crores of rupees sustained for issue of the said identity cards ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) No case of issue of Tatkal Seva Identity Cards to anti-national persons etc. has come to notice of the Government. Hence, the question of taking action against the officers for issue of Identity Cards to anti-national persons, etc. or sustaining any loss on this count does not arise.

Opposition in South Central Railway on Privatisation

4419. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the South Central Railway Employees Sangh has opposed privatisation in the Railways, downsizing of staff, abolition of vacant posts and several other measures being adopted by the Railways; and

(b) what is Government's reaction on these issues and the action Government propose in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.